In the Claims:

Below is a marked up version of the claims as required under rule 37 C.F.R. 1.121 (c)(ii).

Claims 1-22 (canceled)

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23. (currently amended) A combination water filter and suction device for a tub recirculation system, said suction/filter comprising:

a housing having a mounting surface for providing a flush mount to an inside of a tub, below a fill line of a tub;

said housing having an input orifice contiguous with the inside of the tub;

said housing having an outlet port located behind the mounting surface;

said input orifice having a vertically oriented ventilated faceplate;

a removable filter mounted inside the housing having a connection to the outlet port, thereby providing a suction device to intake all the water in the tub from the underwater and to continuously filter said water with a replaceable filter;

wherein the input orifice further comprises a rectangular shape, and the housing further comprises a radiused semi-cylindrical shape with a forward sloping bottom to provide insertability into a rectangular opening in a tub wall and a complete drainage of water from the housing when the tub is empty; and

~~The apparatus of claim 22,~~ wherein the faceplate further comprises a plurality of holes including drainage holes along a bottom peripheral edge.

24. (currently amended) ~~The apparatus of claim 21~~ A combination water filter and suction device for a tub recirculation system, said suction/filter comprising:

a housing having a mounting surface for providing a flush mount to an inside of a tub, below a fill line of the tub;

said housing having an input orifice contiguous with the inside of the tub;

said housing having an outlet port located behind the mounting surface;

said input orifice having a vertically oriented ventilated faceplate;

a removable filter mounted inside the housing having a connection to the outlet port, thereby providing a suction device to intake all the water in the tub from the underwater and to continuously filter said water with a replaceable filter; and

wherein the faceplate further comprises a plurality of flow through holes including drainage holes along a bottom edge thereof.

25. (original) The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the faceplate further comprises a peripheral ledge sized for an overlapped fit around the mounting surface of the housing, and a mounting magnet.

26. (currently amended) ~~The apparatus of claim 21~~A combination water filter and suction device for a tub recirculation system, said suction/filter comprising:

a housing having a mounting surface for providing a flush mount to an inside of a tub, below a fill line of the tub;

said housing having an input orifice contiguous with the inside of the tub;

said housing having an outlet port located behind the mounting surface;

said input orifice having a vertically oriented ventilated faceplate;

a removable filter mounted inside the housing having a connection to the outlet port, thereby providing a suction device to intake all the water in the tub from the underwater and to continuously filter said water with a replaceable filter; and

wherein the faceplate further comprises a plurality of structural fins on a back side thereof, said fins sized to fit into a set of receiving slots in the housing, thereby providing a resistance to breakage of the faceplate.

27. (original) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the faceplate further comprises a peripheral ledge to overlap the mounting surface of the housing.

28. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 27, wherein the faceplate further comprises a mounting magnet having a location opposite a housing receiveer, thereby providing a pop off mount for the faceplate.

29. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 28, wherein the housing receiveor further comprises a magnet.

30. (currently amended) ~~The apparatus of claim 21,~~A combination water filter and suction device for a tub recirculation system, said suction/filter comprising:

a housing having a mounting surface for providing a flush mount to an inside of a tub, below a fill line of the tub;

said housing having an input orifice contiguous with the inside of the tub;

said housing having an outlet port located behind the mounting surface;

said input orifice having a vertically oriented ventilated faceplate;

a removable filter mounted inside the housing having a connection to the outlet port, thereby providing a suction device to intake all the water in the tub from the underwater and to continuously filter said water with a replaceable filter; and

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wherein the removable filter further comprises an internal core, said core having a plurality of holes with ascending size away from the output orifice to provide for an efficient flow of water through a surrounding filter.

Claims 31-35 (canceled)

36. (currently amended) ~~The apparatus of claim 35,~~A combination water filter and suction device for a tub recirculation system, said suction/filter comprising:

a housing having a mounting surface for providing a flush mount to an inside of a tub, below a fill line of the tub;

said housing having an input orifice contiguous with the inside of the tub;

said housing having an outlet port located behind the mounting surface;

said input orifice having a vertically oriented ventilated faceplate;

a removable filter mounted inside the housing having a connection to the outlet port, thereby providing a suction device to intake all the water in the tub from the underwater and to continuously filter said water with a replaceable filter;

wherein the housing comprises a pop off connection for the removable filter from the connection to the outlet port;

wherein the pop off connection further comprises an inward cant to an outlet sidewall of the housing, said outlet sidewall containing the outlet port; and

wherein the outlet port further comprises a safety/sanitation port having a connection to ambient air, said connection ending at a location above a water line of the tub, wherein the operation of the recirculation system without the removable filter allows the ambient air into the recirculation system, thereby causing a cavitation.

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37. (currently amended) ~~The apparats of claim 21,~~A combination water filter and suction device for a tub recirculation system, said suction/filter comprising:

a housing having a mounting surface for providing a flush mount to an inside of a tub, below a fill line of the tub;

said housing having an input orifice contiguous with the inside of the tub;

said housing having an outlet port located behind the mounting surface;

said input orifice having a vertically oriented ventilated faceplate;

a removable filter mounted inside the housing having a connection to the outlet port, thereby providing a suction device to intake all the water in the tub from the underwater and to continuously filter said water with a replaceable filter; and

wherein the faceplate further comprises a radiating slot pattern from a central point of the faceplate.

Claims 38-49 (canceled)

50. (currently amended) ~~The apparatus of claim 47,~~ A combination water filter and suction device for a whirlpool bath, the device comprising:

housing means functioning to support a removable filter means and provide an inlet opening contiguous with an inner surface of the whirlpool bath;

faceplate means functioning to cover the inlet opening and prevent body entrapment, prevent hair entrapment, and prevent accidental breakage thereof; and

wherein the housing further comprises an outlet port having a safety/sanitation port means functioning to create cavitation if the whirlpool bath is operated without the removable filter means.

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Claims 51-63 (canceled)

64. (new) A combination water filter and suction device for a tub recirculation system, said suction/filter comprising:

a housing having a mounting surface for providing a flush mount to an inside of a tub, below a fill line of the tub;

said housing having an input orifice contiguous with the inside of the tub;

said housing having an outlet port located behind the mounting surface;

said input orifice having a vertically oriented ventilated faceplate;

a removable filter mounted inside the housing having a connection to the outlet port, thereby providing a suction device to intake all the water in the tub from the underwater and to continuously filter said water with a replaceable filter; and

said housing having a slanted ledge to enable complete drainage of the housing after each use.

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65. (new) A combination water filter and suction device for a tub recirculation system, said suction/filter comprising:

a housing having a mounting surface for providing a flush mount to an inside of a tub, below a fill line of the tub;

said housing having an input orifice contiguous with the inside of the tub;

said housing having an outlet port located behind the mounting surface;

said input orifice having a vertically oriented ventilated faceplate;

a removable filter mounted inside the housing having a connection to the outlet port, thereby providing a suction device to intake all the water in the tub from the underwater and to continuously filter said water with a replaceable filter; and

wherein the faceplate further comprises a plurality of holes including drainage holes along a bottom peripheral edge, thereby enabling a complete drainage of the housing after each use.

66. (new) The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the removable filter further comprises an antimicrobial filter cartridge comprising:

a plurality of semi-permeable hollow fibers, said hollow fibers being open at one end and comprising a non-metallic antimicrobial agent, and

at least one layer of a microporous filter medium wrapped around said hollow fibers.

67. (new) A combination water filter and suction device comprising:

a housing having a mounting surface for providing a flush mount to an inside wall of a tub;

said housing having an input orifice and an output orifice, and a shaped ledge to enable a complete drainage of the housing after each use;

said input orifice having a vertically oriented porous faceplate; and

a removable filter mounted inside the housing, thereby providing a suction device to intake the water in the tub from underwater and to continuously filter said water with a replaceable filter.

68. (new) A combination water filter and suction device comprising:

a housing having a mounting surface for providing a flush mount to an inside wall of a tub;

an input orifice having a vertically oriented porous faceplate;

a removable filter mounted inside the housing, and

said housing having said input orifice and an output orifice, and a shaped ledge to enable retention of less than about 10.5 ounces of water in the combination water filter and suction device after each use, thereby providing a suction device to intake the water in the tub from underwater and to continuously filter said water with a replaceable filter.

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69. (new) A combination water filter and suction device comprising:

a housing having a mounting surface for providing a flush mount to an inside wall of a tub;

an input orifice having a vertically oriented porous faceplate;

a removable filter mounted inside the housing; and

said housing having said input orifice and an output orifice, and a shaped ledge to enable retention of less than about 6.5 ounces of water in the combination water filter and suction device after each use, thereby providing a suction device to intake the water in the tub from underwater and to continuously filter said water with a replaceable filter.